

**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the 3<sup>rd</sup> full paragraph of page 8, beginning at line 9 and ending at line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

- - -Referring to Fig. 1A and Fig. 1B, 1 is a flat prismatic sealed battery structured as a lithium ion rechargeable battery, its battery case 2 accommodating elements for electromotive force 3 inside, which consist of an electrode plate assembly stacked positive and negative electrodes with a separator interposed therebetween and liquid electrolyte. An annular groove is formed in the outer face at a predetermined position from the top end 2b of the opening 2a of the battery case 2, and a holder plate 4 formed with an aperture 4a is welded at 5 to be fixed onto an annular support 6 that is formed by the annular groove protruding inwards. - - -